

CLAIMS:

1. A transreflective liquid crystal display (LCD) device, comprising:
 - a liquid crystal display cell including an active layer (210);
 - a backlight system (240) for backlighting of said display cell,
 - a partial mirror (224) for reflecting ambient light, provided with apertures (226) for passing light originating from the backlight system (240), and
 - polarizing means comprising a patterned polarizer (222) between the active layer (210) and the backlight system (240), said patterned polarizer (222) extending substantially over an area of said apertures (226) in said partial mirror (224).
- 10 2. The transreflective LCD device of Claim 1, wherein the patterned polarizer is essentially confined within the area of the apertures of the partial mirror.
- 15 3. The transreflective LCD device of Claim 1, wherein the patterned polarizer (522) comprises a polarizing foil (523) and a further partial mirror (527) having its apertures aligned with the apertures (526) in the partial mirror (524), the polarizing foil (523) being essentially sandwiched between the two partial mirrors (524, 527).
- 20 4. The transreflective LCD device of Claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the patterned polarizer is a linear polarizer.
5. The transreflective LCD device of Claim 3, wherein the polarizing means further includes a quarterwave retarder (228) between the active layer (210) and the backlight system (240).
- 25 6. The transreflective LCD device of Claim 1, wherein the partial mirror is arranged for recycling light to the backlight system.
7. The transreflective LCD device of Claim 1, wherein the polarizing means includes a reflective polarizer.